

NEWS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

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PROVAIL Announces Winners of 2005 Wyckoff Awards
Local Corporations and Legislators Recognized

SEATTLE – October 10, 2005 – PROVAIL, one of the state's largest organizations serving people with disabilities, announced the winners of its 2005 Wyckoff Awards. Named in honor of Dr. Hulett J. Wyckoff who was instrumental in founding the organization 63 years ago, the awards honor individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary efforts to support people with disabilities.

This year's Wyckoff Award for Advocacy will be presented to State Representative Hans Dunshee (D) for his support of House Bill 1791 to create a developmental disabilities community trust account, as well as House Bill 2181 to create an autism task force. As chair of the Capital Budget Committee, Representative Dunshee has also been a strong advocate for funding for transitional services and social services.

In recognition of their proactive efforts, beyond grantmaking, to address various needs in the disabilities community, Medina Foundation will be honored with the Wyckoff Award for Inspiration. The Foundation recently initiated a series of conversations among leaders of disability organizations in the Seattle area, which has grown into the creation of a network for support, dialogue, and collaboration.

The award for Corporate Partnership will be given to Auntie Anne's Pretzels which employs twenty-two people with disabilities in the Seattle area. Bret Stewart, owner of ten Auntie Anne's locations says, "There is no reason not to hire people with disabilities. I am looking for team players who are excited to work and eager to learn. As long as people are motivated to be at Auntie Anne's, it doesn't matter whether they have a disability or not."

Other awards include the Wyckoff Award for Philanthropy which will be presented to Microsoft for their \$80,000 in-kind donation of software to PROVAIL.

The awards will be presented at PROVAIL's annual Wyckoff Dinner and Awards Ceremony to be held at Town Hall Seattle on October 26th. The evening will feature a keynote presentation by noted Disability Rights advocate, author, and NPR commentator Jeff Moyer.

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- Advocacy: Rep. Hans Dunshee
- Inspiration: Medina Foundation
- Corporate Partnership: Auntie Anne's Pretzels
- Philanthropy: Microsoft
- Individual Merit: Rex Lund, Kibble&Prentice
- Lifetime Achievement: Dr. Johnny Johnson, PROVAIL Dental Clinic

About PROVAIL

Founded in 1942 by families seeking solutions for their children with cerebral palsy, PROVAIL was formerly known as United Cerebral Palsy of King-Snohomish Counties. After disaffiliating from UCPA in 1999, PROVAIL has grown to become one of Washington State's largest private, multi-service agencies dedicated to meeting the needs of people with all types of disabilities. A recognized leader in the field of supported services for children and adults with disabilities, PROVAIL provides occupational, physical and speech therapy, assistive technology, supported living, employment, and dental services.

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